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PAGE 01 ROME 05874 081706Z

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SUBJECT: IFAD THIRD PREPARATORY COMMISSION: CONCLUSION

ROME 5822

1. SUMMARY: THIRD IFAD PREPARATORY COMMISSION MEETING ENDED WITH ADOPTION OF : A) EXPLANATORY NOTE ON UN/IFAD RELATIONSHIP; B) REDRAFT OF RULE 35 WHICH LEAVES UNDECIDED METHOD OF VOTING FOR PERMANENT SEAT; C) ITERIM SECRETARIAT BUDGET FOR PERIOD UNTIL SEPT 30, 1977; AND D) DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR FOURTH PREPARATORY COMMISSION. FOURTH PREPARATORY COMMISSION SET FOR JULY 11-15, IN ROME. CONSIDERABLE WORK REMAINS FOR THAT PREPARATORY COMMISSION, AND OTHER ISSUES OUTSIDE PREPARATORY COMMISSION'S COMPETENCE, E.G. SEAT/PRESIDENCY/VICE PRESIDENCY PACKAGE, REMAIN UNSOLVED. END SUMMARY

2. DRAFT RELATIONSHIP AGREEMENT WITH UN. PLENARY ADOPTED EXPLANATORY NOTE TO DRAFT AGREEMENT BASED ON US DRAFT FOR FORWARDING TO UN, AND EMPOWERED PREPARATORY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN AND TWO VICE-CHAIRMEN, INCLUDING US REPRESENTATIVE, TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS ON RELATIONSHIP AGREEMENT WITH ECOSOC COMMITTEE.

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PAGE 02 ROME 05874 081706Z

3. PERMANENT SEAT/GOVERNING COUNCIL RULE 35 (METHOD OF TAKING DECISIONS). RULE 35 WAS DEBATED, WITH ALL GROUPS NOTING DESIRABILITY OF SELECTING PERMANENT SEAT BY CONSENSUS, BUT WITH NEITHER SIDE BUDGING FROM BASIC POSITIONS. CATEGORY III, AFTER G-77 CAUCUS, ANNOUNCED ITS OPPOSITION TO SECRET BALLOTING AND ITS SUPPORT FOR HAVING SEAT ESTABLISHED IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. (CORRIDOR TALKS INDICATE THAT G-77 SOLIDARITY MAY BE CONSIDERABLY

LESS FIRM THAN ASSERTED BY THEIR SPIKESMAN, AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT MANY LATIN AMERICAN MEMBERS DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN CAUCUS.) IT WAS FINALLY AGREED TO ADOPT RE-WRITTEN RULE 35 WHICH PROVIDES PROCEDURES FOR BOTH SECRET AND ROLL CALL VOTES BUT DOES NOT INDICATE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH RESPECTIVE PROCEDURES WILL BE USED. SEPARATE DRAFT DOCUMENT ENTITLED QUOTE PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING THE PERMANENT SEAT OF THE FUND UNQTE INCOPORATES IN BRACKETS REPECTIVE POSITIONS OF BOTH SIDES FOR EVENTUAL DECISION BY GOVERNING COUNCIL.

4. PROGRESS OF SIGNATURE/RATIFICTION, INTERIM SECRETARIAT BUDGET, AND FOURTH PREPARATORY COMMISSION. REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF SIGNATURE/RATIFICATION INDICATED 42 COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED AND 4 RATIFIED IFAD AGREEMENT. AMONG OPEC ONLY KUWAIT AND VENEZUELA HAVE SIGNED. PREPARATORY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN AL-SUDEARY APPEALED TO ALL MEMBERS TO EXPEDITE RATIFICATION PROCEDURES. INTERIM SECRETARIAT BUDGET FOR PERIOD UNTIL SEPT 30, 1977, WHICH ASSUMES ADDITIONAL FAO CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$50-60,000 AS WELL AS ADVANCE CONTRIBUTIONS BY SOME STATES OF \$140,000, WAS ADOPTED WITH RESERVATIONS THAT CERTAIN PROPOSED WORK BY CONSULTANTS REGARDING A) CO-FINANCING WITH COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS AND B) POSITION AND SALARY STRUCTURE NOT BE UNDERTAKEN UNTIL AFTER NEXT PREPARATORY COMMISSION. PLENARY SET DATE OF JULY 11-15 FOR FOURTH PREPARATORY COMMISSION, TO BE HELD IN ROME. THIS TIMING WOULD ALLOW FIRST GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER BUT SCEPTICISM WAS VOICED WHETHER RATIFICATION WILL BE COMPLETED SO QUICKLY. PREPARATORY COMMISSION ADJOURNED AFTER ADOPTION OF DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR FOURTH PREPARATORY COMMISSION.

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PAGE 03 ROME 05874 081706Z

5. COMMENT. DESPITE TEDIOUS DEBATE AND LACK OF FORWARD MOVEMENT ON UNDERLYING PROBLEMS, PREPARATORY COMMISSION AVOIDED NORTH/SOUTH POLEMICS AND MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS ON TASKS WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION. RESOLUTION OF PERMANENT SEAT PROBLEM WILL REQUIRE HIGH-LEVEL NEGOTIATION BEYOND COMPETENCE OF PREPARATORY COMMISSION. DESPITE STRONG RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS ON OVERALL SIZE AND TOP-HEAVY STRUCTURE OF PROPOSED STAFF, NO SUPPORT WAS EXPRESSED FOR A QUOTE PURE UNQTE FUND CONCEPT LIMITED TO DISBURSING FUNDS THROUGH EXISTING IFI'S. APPROACH ADOPTED BY PREPARATORY COMMISSION THEREFORE IS TO REVISE PRESENT PROPOSAL TO GRADUALLY PHASE IN STAFF VIA TWO-STEP PROCESS IN WHICH MANAGEMENT WILL DESIGN ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING PATTERN BASED ON EXPERIENCE DURING INITIAL PERIOD. RE VICE-PRESIDENT, AL-SUDEARY STILL FEELS IT IS PREMATURE TO GIVE PUBLIC ENDORSEMENT TO US CANDIDATE. IN VIEW OF NEED TO RESOLVE PERMANENT SEAT ISSUE, WE BELIEVE MAINTAINING INTER-RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SITE AND PRESIDENCY/VICE PRESIDENCY IS ESSENTIAL FOR US OBJECTIVES. GARDNER

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